MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 MAY 1982

Iran-Iraq

Iraqi forces succeeded in destroying Iran's forward defense lines in the (Taheri)-(Halub) bridge area, according to a military communique carried by INA. Iranian forces were forced to retreat and suffered heavy casualties and equipment losses, it added. In other action, a military spokesman announced that an Iranian plane had been shot down in a dogfight with an Iraqi plane in the southern sector, Baghdad Voice of the Masses reported.

Iraqi troops were forced to retreat in the area west of the Karun River following a "last ditch" attack on Iranian forces, leaving behind a large number of dead and wounded, Tehran radio reported. Iranian troops continued to reinforce their positions in this area, the radio said. According to AFP, Iranian forces have broken Iraqi lines along 16 miles of the southern front in Khuzestan Province and have set up advance positions along the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr road. Iranian troops repelled a 14-hour counterattack in Garm Dasht resulting in heavy Iraqi casualties, IRNA reported. An Iraqi offensive in the Hoseyniyeh area was completely smashed and Iraqi forces in Fakkeh suffered heavy casualties from Iranian air attacks, according to a military communique carried by Tehran radio.

Iraqi forces are currently using Soviet-made MiG-25 planes and T-72 tanks on the fronts, IRNA reported citing Guards Corps Commander Mohsen Reza'i.

Iran

All the leaders and members of the Peykar organization in Bandar-e 'Abbas have been arrested and jailed, Bandar-e 'Abbas radio reported. Over 40 people were arrested and 7 safe houses were discovered during an operation by the Guards Corps. In Tehran, the Mojahedin-e Khalq attacked the office of the imam's relief committee killing five staff members and wounding several others, Tehran radio reported.

Israel

West Bank, Gaza Situation -- Four West Bank youths were killed when a mine they were handling exploded, according to Jerusalem television. Meanwhile, the 12-year-old girl from the 'Arrub refugee camp who was wounded by an Israeli civilian on 2 May died in the hospital, Jerusalem radio reported. Two youths from the Jabalyah refugee camp in Gaza were injured when IDF soldiers fired at demonstrators. ITIM reported disturbances in various parts of east Jerusalem.

Autonomy Negotiations -- Prime Minister Menahem Begin told World Jewish Congress representatives that the autonomy talks must be held in Washington, Jerusalem and Cairo and whoever opposes holding the talks in Jerusalem will shoulder the responsibility, Jerusalem radio reported. If the talks are not held in Jerusalem, then they will not be held at all, he affirmed. U.S. representative to the autonomy talks Richard Fairbanks will arrive in Israel and Egypt next week in an attempt to settle Israeli-Egyptian differences over the location of the talks, the radio noted.

Egypt

Opposition to Settlements -- Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told an EC delegation headed by EC President Leo Tindemans that the establishment of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories is illegal, contravenes all international conventions, is null and void and constitutes a breach of the Camp David accords, MENA reported.

Tabah Dispute -- noting the return to Cairo of the Egyptian delegation which has been holding talks with Israeli officials on the Tabah border dispute, MENA said the two sides have agreed to go ahead with negotiations to reach agreement. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister 'Ali gave the Israeli ambassador a message for Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on the application of the peace treaty to the demarcation of disputed border areas, according to Cairo radio.

Relations With Arab World -- Although the Israeli paper MA'ARIV reported that Morocco had decided to appoint an ambassador to Egypt, INA quoted Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta as saying that the issue of restoring relations with Egypt is an Arab issue requiring an Arab decision. Boucetta said his forthcoming visit to Egypt is within the framework of the OAU and has nothing to do with restoring relations between Morocco and Egypt. Arab diplomatic sources in Rabat likewise revealed that no Arab state will unilaterally resume relations with Egypt, according to KUNA.

President Husni Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Ali left on a visit to Khartoum for talks with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, MENA reported.

Jordan

The fact that Egypt has not given up any Arab territory during its efforts to regain the Sinai is to its credit and is an example and principle which must be applied to all occupied Arab territory, King Husayn said in an interview with AL-AHRAM cited by MENA. The king expressed the hope that Egypt will constitute the heart of the Arab world as it has always done. Husayn said Egyptian President Mubarak represents the great hope for the future of Egypt, the Arab world and the unified Arab march. He noted that the initiatives and measures Mubarak has adopted since assuming office were those only a "genuine Arab" could take. Calling Egypt's aid to Iraq in its war with Iran a noble Arab stand, Husayn said the Iraqi Government has sent an invitation to Egypt and Mubarak to attend the nonaligned summit conference in Baghdad in September.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia will adhere to its policy of diversifying its arms sources and will not confine its arms procurement to one country, Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz declared in a statement to AL-YAMAMAH cited by SPA. Commenting on the AWACS deal, the defense minister said Saudi Arabia would continue to use the four AWACS now in the country on a lease-only basis. He said these aircraft will not form part of the aircraft deal sought by the kingdom because they are not as sophisticated as the ones agreed upon in the deal.

In response to a question on the fate of the Tiran and Sanafir Islands, Prince Sultan said in an interview cited by SPA that the two islands are on loan to Egypt and their return to Saudi Arabia is a matter which concerns the Saudi Government.

PDRY-YAR Relations

PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad arrived in Ta'izz for talks with YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, San'a' radio reported. Colonel Salih said the main aim of the meeting was to discuss the security, peace and stability of the Yemen, which is a pressing demand of the Yemeni people, especially since the regime is in a state of tension.

The meeting follows further reports of fighting between YAR Government troops and rebels of the PDRY-backed National Democratic Front (NDF). YAR troops recently launched a major offensive against the NDF, killing large numbers of rebels, AFP reported, while a 2 May NDF communique said government forces had lost eight tanks in the fighting.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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TROOPS REENLIST AT DISCHARGE CEREMONIES

LD060626 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] A meeting was held today in Kabul operational battalion command to encourage and appreciate the troops of the above battalion.

The chief commander of revolution defense, political head of this command, commander and deputy political head of the operational battalion spoke at this meeting on the lofty objectives of the April Revolution.

Speaking on behalf of the operational battalion troops who have succeeded in obtaining discharge certificates, Mera-Jan, a volunteer soldier, then spoke and expressed every readiness to defend the gains of the April Revolution.

According to another report discharge certificates were given today and yesterday to those sarandoy troops of Kabul International Airport and the third security ward of Kabul city who had completed the term of the sacred military service.

The sarandoy commander of Kabul airport and head of the third security ward spoke at this meeting about the role of the patriotic youth for the defense of the homeland and revolution and wishes the success of the conscious and patriotic youth for the realization of the objectives of the party and government.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that gifts were also given to the troops along with discharge certificates.

A number of the troops of Kabul Airport and the third security ward of Kabul city volunteered not to accept discharge certificate until the hand of the traitors to the homeland and revolution is cut off from the revolutionary Afghanistan.

Those troops of sarandoy command, Fariab Province, whose term of military service has been completed, have also received their discharge certificates in the course of a ceremony.

The sarandoy commander of Fariab Province and the political head of this command shed light at this meeting on the role of brave soldiers for safeguarding security and gains of the April Revolution, in particular its new development stage, and wished them success in realizing the lofty objectives of the party and government.

The ceremony ended by giving gifts and discharge certificates to the troops of sarandoy command.

According to another report, those troops of sarandoy command and operational battalion of Ghowr, Baghlan and Kapisa Provinces who have completed term of the sacred military service -- 2 and 1/2 years or more -- were discharged in the course of separate meetings where gifts were also given to them.

In the meetings which were held on this occasion in the sarandoy command headquarters of Ghowr, Baghlan and Kapisa Provinces, a number of soldiers recalled with appreciation the bravery and heroism of those troops of the above provinces who, during the term of their service, have displayed heroism against the enemies of the homeland and defense of the national and democratic April Revolution, in particular its new development stage, and wished further victories for these conscious youth for the prosperity and well-being of the toiling people of the county and construction of the flourishing society in the revolutionary Afghanistan.

According to the reports of the above provinces' sarandoy commands, a number of these brave and courageous troops who have successfully completed their term of military service once again volunteered not to lay down their weapons until the complete elimination of the counterrevolutionary bands and to continue the sacred military service in their respective units.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON ALGERIAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT

PM051541 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 26 Apr 82 p 12

[APS report: "Need To Strengthen Collective Autonomy Among Developing Countries"]

[Text] Algiers -- At the end of the 4-day official visit to India by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN [National Liberation Front] Party, an Algerian-Indian joint communique was issued yesterday, the text of which is as follows:

At the invitation of Mr Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, president of the Republic of India, Mr Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, made an official visit of friendship to India from 22 through 25 April 1982.

President Chadli Bendjedid's talks with President Reddy and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi took place in a warm and cordial atmosphere which illustrates the ties of deep friendship and solidarity which unite the Algerian and Indian peoples and reflects the two countries' common attachment to the ideals of freedom, justice and peace.

These talks were attended on the Algerian side by: Mr Mohamed Ben Yahia, Political Bureau member and foreign minister; Mr Sliman Hoffman, Central Committee member and chairman of the party's External Relations Commission; Mr Saleh Goudjil, Central Committee member and minister of transportation and fishing; Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi, Central Committee member and minister of planning and national development; and on the Indian side by: External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, Planning Minister and Planning Commission Vice Chairman S.B. Chavan and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Bhisma Narain Singh.

During these talks the two sides made a close examination of bilateral relations between the two countries and had a detailed exchange of views on the international situation. In examining bilateral relations the two sides noted with satisfaction the constant development of their economic cooperation.

Exemplary Cooperation

They agreed to step up and diversify their trade by encouraging the signing of long-term agreements on the basis of mutual interest and reciprocal advantage. They affirmed their determination to strengthen their cooperation on a stable and lasting basis in the economic, industrial, scientific and technical spheres and especially in the transfer of technology.

The two sides agreed to make every effort to give their bilateral relations an exemplary character, which confirms their desire to promote cooperation among the developing countries based on solidarity in keeping with the principles and objectives of South-South cooperation. In that context they adopted a joint statement on the development of economic cooperation between Algeria and India.

In carrying out a detailed analysis of the international situation, the two sides noted that the aggravation of international tension stems from the growing use in international relations of the policy of force in all its forms which is demonstrated in opposition to the completion of the decolonization process, persistence in denying peoples under colonial and foreign domination their inalienable right to determine their future, and in the resumption of imperialism's activity, the rising spiral of the arms race, the search for spheres of influence and domination, the growing use of the policies of interference and intervention, the stepping up of bloc rivalry, the reactivation of military bases and new strategic arrangements.

Strengthening the Nonaligned Countries' Cohesion

The two sides express their conviction that tensions can only be eased by transforming and democratizing all international relations. They stress the vitality of nonalignment which, as an autonomous factor outside the blocs, continues to be a more essential and irreplaceable element of international life than ever.

They also stress that the Nonaligned Movement can only fully fulfill its responsibilities by continuing to play its role in the liberation of peoples, the consolidation of national independence, the promotion of equitable international cooperation, the establishment of real peace and security in the world, the democratization of international relations and the advent of a new international economic order.

They express their conviction that the new concept of international relations inherent in nonalignment is still the only alternative to the state of world crisis.

The two sides stress the Nonaligned Movement's need to increase its cohesion, its solidarity and its capacity for action in order to assume its historic mission.

The two sides reaffirmed their determination to work relentlessly together with the other nonaligned countries and on the basis of strict respect for the principles and objectives of the nonalignment policy to ensure that the movement can make a decisive contribution to settling international problems.

The two sides express their desire to continue, in keeping with the Havana summit decisions, to make efforts in the framework of preparations for the seventh nonaligned countries' summit and stress the need to ensure that conference's success.

The two sides particularly stressed the need to mobilize the nonaligned countries in the struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid and they reaffirm their full and complete solidarity with peoples under colonial and foreign domination in their legitimate struggle to attain their rights to self-determination and independence.

Full Support for the Palestinian and Saharan Peoples

The two sides examined the Middle East question and expressed their concern at the dangerous situation prevailing in the region as a result of the persistence of the Zionist entity's policy of aggression which they strongly condemn.

They stress that the Palestinian problem is at the heart of the Middle East crisis and reaffirm that no just and lasting settlement can be achieved without the PLO's full and complete participation and without complete withdrawal of the Zionist occupation forces from all the occupied territories, including Jerusalem.

They reaffirm their full support for and complete solidarity with the Palestinian people who are struggling under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, for the restoration of their inalienable rights, including the right to create a Palestinian state.

The two sides examined the situation in southern Africa and reaffirmed their support for the peoples of the region in their struggle to destroy colonialism and oppose apartheid.

They reaffirmed their full support for the Namibian people struggling under the leadership of the South-West African People's Organization -- their sole legitimate representative -- to attain their inalienable right to self-determination, freedom and independence. They strongly condemned the Pretoria regime's persistent acts of armed aggression against the frontline states.

With regard to the West Sahara, the two sides stress that the solution to that problem should be based on the West Saharan people's exercise of their right to self-determination in keeping with the UN, OAU and Nonaligned Movement's resolutions.

For a Detente Policy

The two sides expressed their great concern at the constantly growing escalation of the superpowers' military presence in the Indian Ocean region despite the will expressed by the states bordering on the Indian Ocean and the states in the hinterland. They expressed the view that such demonstrations of large-scale military presence by the superpowers and the acquisition of new facilities and the strengthening of the Diego Garcia base aggravate local tensions and are likely to lead to new conflicts. They reiterated the need to step up efforts to rapidly implement the declaration on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace in keeping with the UN General Assembly [UNGA] resolution.

The two sides examined the situation in the Mediterranean and expressed their concern at the aggravation of tensions and the redeployment of forces foreign to the region which threatens the security and independence of the Mediterranean countries. They stress the need to urgently make as much effort as possible to overcome this situation and turn the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and cooperation.

The two sides stress the need for a policy of detente and of easing international tension to have an international and global character so as to cover all regions of the world and all aspects of international relations.

They expressed their grave concern at the stepping up of the arms race which is a serious threat to international peace and security. They particularly stressed the importance of the second extraordinary UNGA session called on the initiative of the nonaligned countries and the need to try to promote initiatives and proposals by the nonaligned countries for the success of that session and the start of a real disarmament process.

The two sides had a detailed exchange of views on the state of international economic relations and expressed their concern at the continued lack of progress.

They deplore the lack of political will in the industrial countries for the establishment of a new international economic order. In that respect they stress the urgent need to launch global negotiations.

The two sides particularly stressed the need to strengthen collective autonomy among the developing countries. In this context President Chadli Bendjedid expressed his appreciation of the Indian prime minister's initiative on the developing countries' New Delhi meeting and the positive results of their consultations.

The two sides welcomed the results of the visit which took place in an atmosphere of friendship, mutual respect and understanding. The two sides noted that the visit is a new and major contribution to the continued promotion of relations and cooperation between the two countries at all levels.

The two sides noted that their talks confirmed broadly identical views on the questions examined. They asserted their desire to further develop cooperation between the two countries at the bilateral and international levels, in particular in the framework of the Nonaligned Movement. The Algerian side expressed its deep gratitude to the Indian Government and people for the warm welcome and friendly hospitality shown to it during its visit to India.

The president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria invited the Indian president and prime minister to make an official visit to Algeria. Those invitations were accepted with pleasure and the dates will be fixed later through diplomatic channels.

HAQ ON ELECTIONS, DOMESTIC 'DIFFICULTIES'

BK051027 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Talking to newsmen on arrival in Lahore this morning, the president said the government was examining various possibilities for holding the elections in the country.

In reply to a question as to whether the elections would be held on a non-party basis, he said he was not yet in a position to give out the decision of the government. They were currently examining various possibilities.

Asked whether the possibility of holding elections on a non-party basis also existed, the president replied in the affirmative and said it was very much a possibility.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq described the law and order situation in the country as good. He, however, added that there were weaknesses which would be overcome. Every society and country has some difficulties. We have our own difficulties. The law and order situation is not what it should be. It would improve further gradually.

When pointed out that teachers' and doctors' strikes are on, the president said these are part of the game and expressed the hope that all will play the game according to the rules.

Replying to a question, the president said that Pakistan felt concerned over the anti-Muslim riots in India and hoped that this being an internal matter India will resolve it herself.

The president said that he had received an invitation to visit the United States and that he had accepted it. The visit would take place at the end of the year.

KUWAITI OIL MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

BK040540 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 May 82

[Text] Kuwait's oil minister, 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi as-Sabah, has said that his country will welcome joint projects with Pakistan in oil exploration and other sectors.

Talking to newsmen at the airport on his arrival in Islamabad this afternoon on a 3-day visit to Pakistan, he said Pakistan-Kuwait friendship is very deep and that the two countries enjoy cordial relations. He said the purpose of his visit is to further strengthen the friendly relations between the two Islamic states.

Rao Farman Ali, federal minister for petroleum and natural resources, welcomed the Kuwaiti oil minister at the airport.

The Kuwaiti oil minister called on President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi soon after his arrival in Islamabad.

NEPAL

INDIAN ARMY CHIEF ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS 1 MAY

BK011605 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 1 May 82

[Text] Indian Chief of the Army Staff General K.V. Krishna Rao left for India via (Chaukha) this morning after completing a 6-day official visit to Nepal at the friendly invitation of the Nepalese chief of army staff, Gen Singha Pratap Shaha. General Rao was seen off at the Tribhuvan International Airport by General Shaha.

SRI LANKA

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM TALKS IN USSR

BK041136 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 4 May 82

[Text] Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed, who was in the Soviet Union on a 5-day official visit, returned to Sri Lanka yesterday. He had talks with Soviet Premier Nikolay Tikhonov and Foreign Minister Gromyko. The three-round talks were described by both sides as free, frank and friendly.

The two delegations agreed that they had held similar positions on the crucial issue of preserving world peace but also conceded that there were certain differences in their evaluation of some developments in the international situation.

On the situation in the Middle East, Sri Lanka and the Soviet Union agreed that a comprehensive and just settlement of the conflict could be reached only on the basis of an unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967.

Both countries expressed support for the efforts of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement for political settlement of the conflict between Iran and Iraq.

The ministers devoted particular attention to the situation in the Indian Ocean area. The Soviet Union reaffirmed its support for the Indian Ocean peace zone declaration and its readiness to cooperate in the problem with all interested countries.

The ministers also discussed the situation in Asia.

ALGERIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES TO INVESTIGATE CRASH

LD051230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, a delegation from the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria headed by Mr Saleh Goudjil, Algeria's minister of transportation, arrived in Tehran a few moments ago to follow up on the Iraqi regime's fighter planes' shooting down the plane carrying the Algerian foreign minister and his delegation and martyring all of its passengers. The delegation was welcomed by the minister of roads and transport, an under secretary in the Foreign Ministry, a representative of the president, a number of Majlis deputies and a group of other officials.

According to this report, the delegation has come to Iran to inspect the scene of the crash and to return the bodies of the martyrs of that tragic incident to the friendly and brother country of Algeria.

MISSILE SPECIALISTS BLAME IRAQ FOR CRASH

GF060614 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] A committee including missile specialists from Iran and Algeria, accompanied by officials from the Algerian Embassy in Tehran, arrived in Urumiyeh this afternoon after studying and investigating the wreckage of the Algerian plane that was carrying Algerian Foreign Minister Ben Yahia and his aides who were martyred when their plane was downed by the Saddamist regime's fighter planes on the Iranian-Turkish border.

The leader of the Iranian committee told our correspondent that, following the investigation and after viewing the remnants of the missile which was fired at the plane, and in light of the evidence provided by eyewitnesses among the people in the area, there can be no doubt, even among nonspecialists, that this crime was committed by the Iraqi regime.

EYEWITNESSES CONFIRM PLANE DOWNED BY IRAQIS

LD051924 Tehran IRNA in English 1724 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Ankara, 5 May (IRNA) -- The Turkish daily GUNESH today confirmed that the Algerian airplane was shot down by the Iraqi air fighters, quoting eyewitnesses. The airplane crashed in Iranian territory near the Iran-Turkey border on Monday night when it was carrying the Algerian foreign minister and his colleagues to Tehran. These Algerian officials were all killed in the crash.

TAVAKKOLI CONDEMNS MEDIA COVERAGE OF CRASH

LD052308 Tehran IRNA in English 1921 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 5 May (IRNA) -- The government spokesman, Ahmad Tavakkoli, speaking about world coverage of the crash of the Algerian plane carrying the Algerian officials, in an area near the Iran-Turkey border on Monday night, said that if some of the world media were fair, they would have covered the incident as it was.

Tavakkoli, speaking after a Cabinet session this morning, commenting on the captivity of a number of youths who were fighting in the Iraqi imposed war and the recent statement of Saddam that he was willing to release these POWs without asking anything in return, said that ever since the outbreak of the imposed war, Iran said that people ranging from young children and aged men have been fighting against Iraqi aggression and added that the Islamic Republic of Iran was proud of these people. He further said that this move of Saddam was nothing more than a deceit. If the Iraqi regime valued what it said, it would have followed up the issue of the exchange of visits between the POWs and their families. However, the whole world knew that the Iraqi regime refused to do this, the government spokesman added.

The Cabinet session was presided over by Prime Minister Musavi and the latest political and social developments of the country were discussed in the meeting.

During the session the foreign affairs minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, gave an extensive report on the crash of the plane of the Algerian foreign minister. Velayati told the Cabinet that all the evidence was indicative of the crime committed by Saddam. The government spokesman stressed that the Iraqi regime did not observe and respect international laws and even attacked planes flying on international routes.

Tavakkoli further said that during the session allocation of some 2 billion rials for the expenditure of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps was approved.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE 8 REPORTS MILITARY SUCCESSES

LD051808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 May 82

[Joint communique No 8 of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the name of God, the crusher of the oppressors. "Muhammad, the prophet of God, and those who are with him are harsh toward the infidels, but are merciful among themselves." [Koranic verse]

Muslim and martyr-nurturing nation of Iran: The fighters of Islam, these true apostles in the school of the Koran, continue their battle against the aggressors who have attacked the Islamic homeland and against their criminal masters, continue delivering blows upon the enemy by trusting upon God, and are safeguarding their great earlier victories. The defeated enemy, contrary to its claims that it will not allow the forces of Islam to advance even an inch, in order to cover up its defeats in the Jerusalem operations and its loss of the west side of the Karun River and the important, strategic Ahvaz-Khuninshahr highway, has engaged in futile propaganda efforts.

This morning, thanks to the vigilance of the forces of Islam, an enemy offensive which tried to get near the forces of Islam based in Hoseyniyeh was completely smashed.

By encircling the enemy forces, our forces succeeded in destroying five of their tanks and setting fire to one of their trucks carrying ammunition. In this clash a large number of the aggressive forces were killed or wounded and a number of them were captured. After these operations a number of Iraqi soldiers who had come to realize the truth of the forces of Islam took refuge with the process of Islam together with one tank and one personnel carrier; the tank and personnel carrier were put at the disposal of the forces of Islam.

The high-flying pilots of the Airborne Division in a brave offensive operation on the Fakkeh axis yesterday flew 13 sorties over enemy positions and inflicted heavy losses and casualties upon them. In these successful operations our heroic pilots succeeded in destroying six enemy tanks and five light and heavy vehicles of the aggressive forces. Also, a number of enemy mortar positions and all their equipment were destroyed during these operations and a large number of enemy forces were killed or wounded.

During the operations carried out during the last few days by the high-flying pilots of the Airborne Division against the aggressive forces of Saddam, one of our helicopters was involved in an accident and its heroic pilot and copilot, First Lieutenant Harra and Lieutenant Nasir Radfar, were martyred. We wish to express our gratitude for the heroism and self-sacrifices of these brave children of the forces of Islam.

This afternoon, during operations west of the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr axis, the fighters of Islam succeeded in destroying seven enemy tanks and capturing three other tanks intact.

During these operations, a large number of enemy forces were killed or wounded and a few others were captured. Once again, we ask our martyr-nurturing nation to pray for greater victories for the forces of Islam and the destruction and defeat of the enemies of Islam, and to beseech God Almighty's assistance for the final victory of the fighters of Islam. Looking forward to the final victory of the fighters of Islam and the liberation of Jerusalem from the hands of usurping Zionism. With God's assistance victory is near.

IRAQI COUNTERATTACK REPELLED AT GARM DASHT

LD052234 Tehran IRNA in English 1940 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Ahvaz, 5 May (IRNA) -- Iraqi infantry and artillery troops suffered heavy casualties as their counterattack against the Islamic troops in Garm Dasht was repelled.

The 14-hour counterattack of the invading enemy troops cost them also seven tanks and personnel carriers. The aggressor troops were pushed back to their former position at the end of the encounter.

In other news the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran pounded enemy targets in Istgah-e Hoseyniyeh and Garm Dasht, and inflicted heavy damages on them. The sound of Iraqi ambulances was heard in the area for several hours after the encounter.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 883

LD051834 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 May 82

[Communique 883 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Intense battles and exchanges of fire continue on the southern fronts. The self-sacrificing forces of Islam, who attacked the Ba'thist invaders during the Jerusalem operations, continue to guard their own defensive positions. Our forces are maintaining their fire superiority and are consolidating their positions. They are continuing their relentless battle with full superiority. Our forces continue inflicting loss and damage on the enemy by foiling their counteroffensives and opening fire on enemy positions and units.

Exchanges of fire continue on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts. Activities of the brave combatants of the gendarmerie on these fronts include the silencing of enemy fire and the destruction of two observation posts, several trenches and foxholes, one mortar and one 106-mm gun of the Saddamists. A considerable number of enemy troops have either been killed or wounded.

On 4 May residential areas and installations of Abadan came under the long-range artillery fire of the Saddamists which resulted in some loss and damage.

Thanks to the artillery fire of our ground forces on enemy positions on the Salehabad front, several assembly points were destroyed.

In the Meymak sector, the self-sacrificing warriors of the ground forces and the Guards Corps launched a series of joint operations against the Saddamist forces. The combatants destroyed one ammunition dump and several positions of the Iraqi forces. The combatants also damaged several enemy tanks and killed a number of enemy troops.

In the Mehran sector, our forces destroyed 1 supply center, 3 bunkers and 1 command post of the Iraqi forces; 40 of their troops were either killed or wounded.

On the Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab fronts, the combatants of our grounds forces opened intense artillery and mortar fire and prevented any movement of the Saddamist forces.

Our forces destroyed two trucks, two ammunition depots and several trenches of the enemy. They also damaged the Iraqi forces' supply road.

Intense exchange of fire continues in the Dar Ballut, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Bazi Deraz sectors between the enemy and our brave warriors. Our forces have fire superiority on all the axes.

On the Sheykhan, Nowsud and Band-e Kabud fronts, our brave gendarmerie combatants, while maintaining full fire superiority, returned the Saddamists' fire and, by launching a series of surprise operations, destroyed several troop bunkers and emplacements of the Iraqi forces. Several enemy troops were either killed or wounded.

As announced in the previous communique, on 4 May the fast-flying heroes of the Air Force and air defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran repulsed air-raids of the Iraqi Ba'thist forces and were able to down two of the Iraqi fighters. The rest of the enemy's aggressive planes were forced to flee.

REZA'I ON SUCCESSES AGAINST IRAQIS, MOJAHEDIN

LD051956 Tehran IRNA in English 0916 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Ahvaz, 5 May (IRNA) -- Iraqi forces were currently using Soviet made MiG-25 planes and T-72 tanks in the warfronts, said the commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps [IRGC] Mohsen Reza'i here yesterday afternoon.

Speaking to IRNA on the Bayt al-Moqaddas operations and on the recent blow dealt to the MKO [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] terrorist group, Reza'i said that on the first day of the Bayt al-Moqaddas operations, starting on April 30, Islamic combatants liberated 800 sq kms of Iranian territory and that so far about 4,000 Iraqis had been captured and 50 of their tanks had been seized undamaged. Moreover, he added, several Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers had been destroyed and Brigades 605 and 417 had been totally smashed while Brigades 6 and 8 of the 3rd Division had suffered fatal blows.

Reza'i noted that the Iraqi POWs mentioned that Saddam's forces had been mobilised to respond to Iran's offensives and that Iraqi officers and soldiers had stayed in the warfronts for fear of being executed.

Commenting on the recent blow on the MKO, the IRGC commander said that the recent operation on May 3, in which 10 hideouts were discovered, were much more important than the previous ones since they smashed 90 per cent of the social division of the MKO.

He added that some of the MKO members had confessed that after the killing of Musa Khiabani, the MKO No 2 man, on Feb 8th, their organisation had planned to launch a series of explosions which recent operations put to an end. Reza'i called on the remnant MKO sympathisers to be awakened and join the nation in the warfronts to expel the intruder enemy from Iranian territory as swiftly as possible.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS TOUR SOUTHERN WAR ZONES

LD042022 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 May 82

[Summary] According to IRNA, a Japanese correspondent said after visiting the liberated areas in the south of our country and west of the Karun River today: What we saw today perfectly and fully corresponds with the contents of Iranian military communiques.

The correspondent of the ASAHI newspaper was visiting the newly captured areas together with other reporters from France, Japan, Canada and Britain.

In an interview with IRNA, he said: Today I saw for myself the position of the Iranian forces after pushing out enemy forces from west of the Karun River and capturing the vast region of Sa'd Seyyed 'Abud, next to the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr road; and it made me believe in superiority of the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Another foreign reporter praised the high morale of the Iranian forces and said: With such morale and ability of the Islamic Republic forces, I predict that we shall receive invitations from Iranian authorities in the near future to visit Khorramshahr.

Referring to the baseless claim of Saddam's armed forces that they had pushed back forces of Islam to their original positions, he said: Our presence here shows that Saddam's claims are baseless; and Saddam, with this absolute lie, is trying to deceive the nation of Iraq.

The foreign correspondents returned to Tehran this evening after visiting bombed civilian areas of Ahvaz and meeting with some of the Iraqi POW's captured during the recent victorious Jerusalem operations.

OVER 3,000 IRAQI POW'S ARRIVE IN TEHRAN 5 MAY

LD051724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 May 82

[Excerpt] According to a Central News Unit report, following the great advances of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the fronts to the west of the Karun and Ahvaz-Khorramshahr axis, more than 3,000 of the defeated Iraqi forces who were captured by the victorious Iranian forces arrived in Tehran this morning. From Tehran railroad stations they were sent to various POW camps.

MOJAHEDIN KILL 5 IN ATTACK ON RELIEF COMMITTEE

LD051332 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 May 82

[Excerpt] While the brave armed forces of Islam are daily creating a fresh epic at the battlefronts of truth and falsehood and cleansing the soil of our Islamic country of the filth of the Ba'thist infidels, IRNA reports that yesterday the American Mojahedin-e Khalq engaged in yet another horrendous crime and with an armed attack on the office of the interest-free loan fund of the imam's relief committee on Ostad Motahhari Street [Tehran] martyred five Muslim and committed brother Hezbollahi and wounded several others.

World arrogance's hireling terrorists, having entered the office of the interest-free loan fund building, riddled several Muslim and Hezbollahi staff with bullets and, after cowardly martyring five of them and wounding several others, fled the scene. Those wounded in the incident were immediately rushed to hospitals and underwent treatment.

A funeral ceremony for the victims of this demonic act was held today in the presence of tens of thousands of Muslim and committed citizens of Tehran.

REVOLUTION COMMITTEE WARNS AGAINST IMPOSTORS

LD052116 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the Central Islamic Revolution Committee has announced: Lately it has been noticed that suspect armed elements, bearing false orders from revolutionary institutions, have been in the habit of visiting government or private organizations for the purpose of attacking various people. This has resulted in the martyrdom or wounding of a number of citizens. Therefore, the esteemed brothers working in such places are hereby informed that before allowing such visits to take place they should contact the responsible centers and obtain confirmation of the orders.

In order to receive confirmation of such orders they should telephone 310001-9.

PEYKAR GROUP 'CRUSHED' IN BANDAR-E 'ABBAS

GF051434 Bandar-e 'Abbas Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 5 May 82

[Excerpt] According to the Central News Unit of Bandar-e 'Abbas, in the past few days, due to the persistent efforts of the brother members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Bandar-e 'Abbas, and with the cooperation of the 36-million-strong intelligence organization, the organizational division of the warring minigroup Peykar was discovered and crushed in the province.

The following communique has been issued by the Bandar-e 'Abbas revolution guards in this connection: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. While witnessing the immense and miraculous victory of the combatants of Islam, the true soldiers of the lord of the ages -- we offer him our soul -- these true followers of the imam of the nation, the great Khomeyni, who in the Jerusalem operations have brought us the good tidings of the final victory of the victorious armies of Islam over the infidel enemy, and following the destruction of the Bandar-e 'Abbas division of the U.S. puppet organization of the hypocrites, our always-aware Hezbollahi nation also witnessed the destruction of another event directed by the East and the West in the internal front.

The organization of the deviant, mercenary and terrorist Peykar minigroup -- the so-called organization fighting for liberation of the working class, whose criminal hands have been stained with the blood of tens of sons of the self-sacrificing nation in Kordestan; who, hand in hand with the other infidel groups who are the puppets of the East and West, such as Komeleh and the Democrats, are waging war against the Islamic Republic -- was discovered and destroyed in Bandar-e 'Abbas with the help of the Almighty, the continuous effort of the brother guards and the cooperation of the 36-million-strong intelligence organization. In the successful effort, the entire leadership of the Peykar organization in Bandar-e 'Abbas, regional leaders, elements responsible for enticing schoolchildren, those responsible for organizing prisoners, publication officials and all other members, down to the last member of the organization, were arrested and sent to jail. According to the same report, the following individuals are among those arrested:

1. Ahmad Kazemi, son of (Adis), using the alias Mojtaba: the representative for the radical front in the organization in Bandar-e 'Abbas.

2. Jamshid Mahmudi, son of Yar Mohammad, using the alias 'Ali: the main leader of the organization in the leadership cadre of Bandar-e 'Abbas.

3. Mokhtar Kazemi, son of Hoseyn, using the alias Bahram: the main leader of (Dal Dal) group.

4. Pari Ahmadi, daughter of Hoseyn, using the aliases Mahin and Farzaneh: a former member in charge of organizing the prisoners; a main member of (Dal Dal).

5. Vida Pashang, daughter of Gholamreza, using the alias Sa'ideh: candidate for (Dal Dal) membership.

6. Zahra Tavakkoli, daughter of 'Ali, using the alias Sediqheh: main organizer of prisoners; a former leader of the regional organization.

7. Gholam Hoseyn Baqeri, son of Hasan 'Ali, using the alias Bahman: a former member [as heard]; one of the Bandar-e 'Abbas leaders in charge of publications and one of the main regional leaders.

All the publication, financial, supply and mechanized facilities also fell into the capable hands of the Islamic revolution guards of Bandar-e 'Abbas.

In the operation over 40 were arrested, 7 organizational dens of iniquity containing books and interorganizational documents were discovered, and a number of cars, motorcycles, copying equipment, typewriters and other printing equipment were taken as booty. The details of the operation will be announced for the benefit of the martyr-nurturing nation in later communiques and interviews.

NVOI: EDUCATION POLICY WESTERN-ORIENTED

TA030854 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 2 May carried a commentary entitled: "Implementing a Policy of 'Neither Eastern but Western' in Affairs of Education and Higher Learning Is to the Benefit of the Great Satan." It said that in view of the imam's repeated emphasis on reopening universities and institutions of higher learning, fortunately preliminary steps are being taken toward expediting this matter. However, simultaneously with this issue we are also facing another issue, and that is the problem of Iranian students abroad.

Prior to the revolution we had about 100,000 students in the United States and in several West European countries. According to figures presented by the minister of higher education himself even in the year 1359, 1 year after our nation's revolution, 8,000 students left for Western countries to study. During the second and third years of the revolution, too, the rush of our youths to study in the United States and West European countries continued. As we are aware this took place with the official permission and agreement of the concerned officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Imam Khomeyni and his other sincere followers have repeatedly expressed their frank view on the necessity of putting an end to the influence of Western culture in the universities, institutions of higher learning and the culture of the country.

"However, unfortunately, it must be said that the policy of the concerned officials in respect to tens of thousands of students who are engaged in studying abroad has never been and is not in line with implementing the demand of the imam and the committed government figures of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We state that we want to put an end to the ominous influence of Western culture in affairs of culture and higher education. Is closing the universities and implicit agreement with sending tens of thousands of students to the West, particularly to the United States, the way to achieve this goal? Without doubt the answer to this question is negative. It is no exaggeration if we say that in the issue of sending students abroad one can clearly observe the implementation of the "Neither Eastern but Western" policy by some of the authorities. Under conditions in which tens of thousands of Iranian students have been sent to study in the United States, West Germany, Britain, France and other Western countries -- these centers of plots against the Islamic Republic of Iran -- the number of our students in Eastern countries does not even reach 100."

Simultaneously with the reopening of universities and expanding the university networks, an end should be put forever to the "Neither Eastern but Western" policy in affairs of education and higher learning.

AFGHAN FIGHTERS BREAK SOVIET BLOCKADE IN HERAT

LD060110 Tehran IRNA in English 2012 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] Zahedan, 5 May (IRNA) -- Some 90 Soviet and Afghan soldiers were killed and 10 Soviet tanks destroyed during the 48 hours preceding Wednesday when the Afghan Muslim mujahidin broke the blockade of Herat making the enemy to pull back, said IRNA quoting the Afghan mujahidin. The Soviet forces barraged the western part of Herat by long range artillery while they were withdrawing, causing destruction in that part of the city.